

April 28, 1954

Dr. K. V. Thimann
Biological Laboratories
Harvard University
Cambridge 38
Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Thimann:

You may recall our correspondence last fall on a literature citation for the diagram of transduction that I had presented earlier at the local bacteriologists meeting. I do not know how far along you are with your manuscript, and quite possibly this letter comes too late to be of any use. I have however recently stuck my neck out on this interpretation, and can suggest a specific reference: my paper "Recombination in Bacteria" given April 19 at the Biology Research Conference on Genetic Recombination at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. This should appear in print as a supplement to the Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology during the next 6 to 12 months. This matter is of no great importance, but I wanted the excuse to ask you whether you had possibly thought of including a consideration of chemotaxis in your treatment of bacterial physiology. This is a subject that is not very well-known by most bacteriologists, most of the literature having appeared around the turn of the century. With modern methods, I believe much more could be made of the problem.

I will also take the occasion to acknowledge with thanks the private copies of the thesis and the reprint on small colony variants in yeast. I will of course return them to you ultimately.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

JL:mg